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Year in Review, Part II: Coffee and Covid 2025

October: Military Reform and Global Diplomacy

The final quarter of 2025 began with reports of a federal government shutdown, a claim met with public skepticism as the national debt continued to rise and the stock market climbed to record highs. During this period, the United States secured significant global trade deals, including essential agreements regarding rare earth minerals. In the Department of War, Secretary Pete Hegseth initiated a comprehensive cultural overhaul, mandating that all military commanders meet strict fitness standards and refocusing the department exclusively on war-fighting and preparation.

Significant developments also occurred in the pharmaceutical sector with the launch of TrumpRx, a direct-to-consumer drug-buying platform. Pfizer became the first major company to participate, offering popular medications at discounts ranging from 50 percent to 100 percent by removing traditional middlemen. Meanwhile, the U.S. Navy escalated the war on drugs in the Caribbean, targeting narco-speedboats near Venezuelan waters.

On the diplomatic front, the administration successfully brokered a 20-point peace plan between Israel and Palestine, resulting in the release of civilian hostages. Domestically, election integrity remained a prominent topic as a former Republican official purchased Dominion

Voting, and Smartmatic faced indictments involving a bribery scandal in Venezuela. The month concluded with a noted resurgence in church attendance among Gen Z and Millennial demographics.

November: Economic Leverage and Health Policy Shifts

In November, the administration utilized economic leverage to address the ongoing budget impasse by temporarily halting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Although lower courts initially challenged the move, the Supreme Court ultimately permitted the pause, which the administration used to pressure opposition leaders and highlight the role of the insurance industry in the shutdown.

The month saw several high-profile legal and social developments:

- Criminal Justice: Sean Combs was sentenced to four years in federal prison.
- International Relations: The administration proposed a 28-point peace plan for Ukraine while that government faced internal corruption scandals.
- National Security: The Pentagon opened an inquiry into Senator Mark Kelly regarding a video encouraging soldiers to disregard certain orders.

Public health saw a major shift as the CDC updated its official guidance, acknowledging that prior claims regarding vaccines and autism lacked an evidence-based foundation and that previous studies supporting a link had been ignored. Additionally, the FDA launched inquiries into pediatric deaths associated with COVID-19 vaccinations. An extensive HHS report also challenged the scientific basis of the gender dysphoria industry, noting a lack of verifiable physiological markers for the diagnosis.

December: Trade Dominance and New Global Strategies

The year concluded with the measurable impact of the administration's tariff policies. U.S. trade deficits reached five-year lows, while foreign economies felt the strain; specifically, remittances to Mexico plunged, and Volkswagen announced the historic closure of a production plant in Germany. Domestically, investigations into systemic welfare fraud intensified, particularly regarding the exploitation of social services in Minnesota.

The administration also signaled a new direction for global engagement:

- **The Genesis Mission: A new scientific initiative was launched to create AI-driven laboratories focused on solving major medical and scientific challenges.**
- **Territorial Interests: Special envoys were appointed to Greenland to explore the potential acquisition of the territory.**
- **The National Security Strategy: A new strategy was released, advocating for a multipolar world order based on democratic populism and mutual respect rather than globalist intervention.**

Health policy reform continued with the repeal of the Hepatitis-B vaccine mandate for infants and the appointment of Dr. Traci Høeg to lead FDA drug approvals. The Supreme Court further influenced public health by signaling a religious right for citizens to refuse vaccine mandates. By the end of December, the FDA expanded its inquiries to include adult deaths potentially linked to vaccines, and major pharmaceutical companies joined the TrumpRx platform, significantly lowering the cost of life-saving medications like insulin and blood thinners.

Conclusion

The year 2025 ended with the U.S. economy defying pessimistic forecasts and powering ahead through increased domestic crude production and record-breaking holiday sales. The administration’s

focus on affordability, government transparency, and "America First" diplomacy has set the stage for continued shifts in the national and global landscape as 2026 begins.

To understand the trajectory of these shifts, one might compare the current administration to a master mechanic who, instead of simply polishing the exterior of a stalled vehicle, has chosen to dismantle the engine entirely to replace faulty components and optimize performance for the long journey ahead.